[4th December 1954

Confinement of prisoners convicted for life in jails in their native districts.

* 39 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have decided to repatriate, as a matter of policy, prisoners convicted for life in the Madras State to their respective districts; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government have taken to implement that decision?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) & (*b*) Under the rules in force and as far as possible, prisoners convicted for life in this State are ordinarily confined in the Central Jails situated in or nearest to their native districts."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Are the Government aware of the fact that there was a hunger-strike by prisoners convicted for life from Tamil Nad now lodged in the Cannanore Jail? Have the Government received reports about it and what action have they taken in the matter? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I am not prepared to concede the point that as soon as they go on hunger-strike, I should consider their cases. I am not prepared to do that. Hunger-strike should be discouraged."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" அரசாங்கம் இவைகளுக்கெல்லாம் அசையவே மாட்டேன் என்று சொன்னால், சிறையில் உள்ளவர்களைக் கவனிப்பதற்கு வேறு என்னதான் வழி இருக்கிறது என்பதை கொஞ்சம் மந்திரியார் சொல்வார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The hon. Leader of the Opposition knows the technique much better than I do."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" How many prisoners convicted for life from Tamil Nad are at present in the Cannanore Central Jail? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I want notice, Sir."

Appointment of dealers in ammonium sulphate.

11-40 a.m. * 40 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the reasons for appointing dealers in sulphate of ammonia for the purpose of sales;

(*b*) who was responsible for the shortage of ammonia for purposes of sale during this year;

(*c*) the procedure adopted in getting sulphate of ammonia in previous years; and

(*d*) whether the same procedure was strictly observed during this year?